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OBJECTS

AND

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

CHURCH LAY ASSOCIATION

OF THE

DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

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THE CHURCH LAY ASSOCIATION

OF THE

DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA.

THE Committee formed in accordance with a Resolution passed at a preliminary meeting held in the basement of the National School, on Thursday evening, May 30th, 1872, composed as follows,—

ST. PAUL'S—Messrs. Wm. Gossip, Robt. Taylor,
ST. GEORGE'S— " E. H. Harrington, G. R. Anderson,
ST. LUKE'S— " Alex'r. McNab, Thos. Brown,
CHRIST CHURCH, Dartmouth—Jas. H. Thorne, H. Watt,
ST. MARK'S—Charles Stubbing,—

Held a meeting on Thursday afternoon, June 27th, and adopted the following:—

The Association shall be named—"The Church Lay Association of the Diocese of Nova Scotia."

OBJECTS.

The objects of the Association are,—

1st.—To encourage kindly intercourse and Christian fellowship amongst Churchmen generally.

2nd.—To diffuse amongst members of the Association a general knowledge of the work of the Church throughout the world,—and more particularly a knowledge of her work in the Diocese of Nova Scotia, and the sister Provincial Dioceses.

3rd.—To uphold and sustain the healthful influence and exalted character which legitimately belong to the Church of England as organized in the Diocese of Nova Scotia.

In furtherance of the objects of the Association, the following Constitution and By-Laws have been adopted:

CONSTITUTION.

ART. I.—The Association shall be composed of Laity of the respective Parishes of St. Paul, St. George, St. Luke,—Halifax, and Christ Church, Dartmouth; and of any Parishes, Ecclesiastical or Parochial Districts that are or may be formed within their limits as at present recognized; but may admit under certain restrictions, life members and honorary members, without the limits of the Parishes thus enumerated.

ART. II.—The Association shall in nowise interfere with the system of the Church, or with her government and discipline; shall pay all due respect to ecclesiastical authority; shall entertain no questions of doctrine; shall not regard the various opinions that may exist among Churchmen; shall not connect itself with any particular party in the Church; shall not seek to know its members otherwise than as sincere Churchmen and consistent Christians,—"forbearing one another in love: endeavouring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace."

ART. III.—The following Declaration shall head the list of members, and be subscribed by each of them:—

"As a member of the Church Lay Association of the Diocese of Nova Scotia, I acknowledge by my signature that I belong to the Church of England as organized in Nova Scotia."

ART. IV.—There shall be no discussion or controversy within the Association, or at any of its formal meetings, on the various questions of doctrine or observance that may exist among Churchmen; and any violation of this rule, when brought to the notice of the Council, shall (if so decided by the Council) subject the offender to expulsion from the Association.

ART. V.—The annual general meeting of the Association shall be held on the first Wednesday in February, at 6 p. m., at which all accounts shall be passed for settlement, other necessary business transacted, the Council elected by ballot,

and two Auditors appointed for the ensuing year. Quarterly meetings of the Council for the transaction of business shall be held on the first Wednesday in the months of May, August and November.

ART. VI.—Every member of the Association (except as provided in the By-Laws) shall pay $2.00 per annum, quarterly in advance, which amount shall be expended by the Council in furtherance of the objects of the Association.

ART. VII.—The Council shall have power to make By-Laws for the better regulation and governance of the Association, and more fully to carry out its objects—which must receive approval at an annual or special meeting of the Association, before going into operation.

BY-LAWS.

I.—As soon as practicable, the Association shall occupy convenient premises for the following uses :—

1. For General, Quarterly, and Special Meetings, whether of the Association or Council.

2. A Library and Reading Room.

3. A Lecture Room, and for readings, conversation and mutual improvement, mental recreation, and such other objects, in accordance with the principles of the Association, as the Council shall approve.

II.—Donations of money for the general and special objects of the Association, shall be carefully appropriated under the direction and responsibility of the Council. Donations of books and otherwise, and all books for the Library, and all Church publications, must receive the approval of the Council before being placed for the use of Members of the Association.

III.—The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese shall be honorary Members of the Association, and may attend its meetings, but shall not interfere or take part in its deliberations or business.

IV.—Ladies, who are Churchwomen, in the respective Parishes enumerated, subscribing the Declaration under Art. III. of the Constitution, may be admitted Honorary Members of the Association on payment of one-half the annual subscription, but shall take no part in its deliberations or business; and a separate subscription list shall be opened for them.

V.—Boys and girls, from 14 to 16 years of age, belonging to the Church, may be admitted to the Association under

the responsibility and sanction of their parents or relatives, on payment of one-half the annual subscription, and their names shall be enrolled in a junior subscription list.

VI.—The Association shall admit as Life Members, lay Churchmen belonging to any of the several Parishes as before enumerated, subscribing the Declaration under Art. III. of the Constitution, on payment of forty dollars, who shall be entitled to all the privileges of annual members.

VII.—The Association may admit as Life Members, clerical or lay Churchmen without the limits of the Parishes before enumerated, and without the Diocese of Nova Scotia, subscribing the Declaration under Art. III. of the Constitution, on payment of forty dollars—such Life Members not to interfere in the deliberations or business of the Association.

VIII.—The Association may admit as Honorary Members, Churchmen in the Diocese of Nova Scotia without the limits of the Parishes enumerated, and Churchmen belonging to either of the Provincial Dioceses, subscribing the Declaration under Art. III. of the Constitution, on payment of half the annual subscription—such honorary members not to interfere in the business or deliberations of the Association.

IX.—The President shall take the Chair at all General, Quarterly and Special Meetings, whether of the Association or the Council. He shall certify to the correctness of all accounts against the Association, and sign all orders. As Chairman, he shall have a casting vote. He shall have power at his discretion to call special meetings of the Association or Council, or upon the requisition of a quorum of the Council, or of any ten members of the Association, on their stating to him in writing the object of such special meeting. The Vice President shall act as Chairman in the absence of the President; and if both be absent, the Treasurer, or some other member of the Council, shall be called to the Chair.

X.—The Treasurer shall furnish a true statement of al receipts and disbursements, whenever called upon so to d by the President and Council; and shall present at th Annual Meeting a report and account of all the busines connected with the Association, which has passed throug his hands.

XI.—The Secretary shall attend the meetings of th Association and Council, and enter the minutes of each in book for that purpose; he shall notify the Council, individu ally, of all such meetings; he shall summons all General Quarterly and Special Meetings in such way as may b directed by the President; he shall receive all donations o money, and all dues, and pay them over as soon as practica ble to the Treasurer; he shall receive all donations of book and otherwise, and keep an account of them; he shall kee the keys of the premises of the Association; he shall orde all matters relative to the business of the Association, a directed by the President and Council; he shall present report at the Annual Meeting of the general proceedings o the Association during the past year; he shall receive for hi services the sum of ———, as soon as the funds at th disposal of the Association shall warrant—until which tim he shall be styled Honorary Secretary, and may occasionall call upon the Council, or any of its members, to lighten hi labours.

[*Books of Enrolment will be open at Mr. Wm. Gossip's, 8 Granville street. As soon as the Association numbers 20 members, it will begin its work. Under a firm impressio that the objects set forth will be hailed with gladness by Church men generally, the Committee invite your co-operation an assistance, and ask you to circulate this pamphlet among your fellow Churchmen, with a view to engage their counte nance and support.*]

Signed in the name and on behalf of the Committee.

WM. GOSSIP, *Chm'n.*